



New England Revolution Training Report: September 12, 2018

All,

Please [click here](#) to access interview footage from Tuesday's media availability previewing this Saturday's away match against LAFC (NBC Sports Boston – 10:30 p.m. ET), including quotes and footage from:

- [Head Coach Brad Friedel](#)
- [Midfielder Kelyn Rowe](#)
- [Defender Andrew Farrell](#)
- [Defender Michael Mancienne](#)
- [Goalkeeper Brad Knighton](#)

To request additional footage and interviews, or to RSVP for an upcoming match or training session, please contact the Revolution communications staff at media@revolutionsoccer.net.

[New England Revolution Head Coach Brad Friedel](#)

On getting a morale boost from last week's win against NYCFC:

Coach Friedel: "It does a world of good. We've been playing well enough in a lot of these games over the last couple of months to get three points. The Orlando game, the LA Galaxy, the Portland game, the Minnesota game—we can go on and on about games that we should've gotten three points in and we didn't. Coming away from a game where probably we didn't deserve all three points [with a win] is a really good feeling. Saying that, I thought our second-half performance was pretty solid defensively. I thought Michael [Mancienne] was excellent. I thought Jalil [Anibaba] defending balls in the box was very good. We came under a fair amount of pressure. I thought Brad Knighton calmed things down in the back four. Although they had many chances, I thought we had arguably just as dangerous chances as them. We hit the post twice. So, very pleased."

On individuals like Brian Wright and Isaac Angking capitalizing on opportunities:

Coach Friedel: "It's great that they do it once. We've spoken many times over the course of the season. That's done. Now, you have to go prove yourself again, and then again and again. That's what makes average players into good players, and good players into great players. It's fantastic that Brian [Wright] scored. It's great that Isaac [Angking] got on the field. What would be even better is if we beat LAFC on Saturday. That game [against NYCFC] is in the past. We'll learn from what we didn't do right and we'll also take onboard what we did do right, and we'll move on to the next one. The next game is always the most important."

On Teal Bunbury's status:

Coach Friedel: "Teal [Bunbury] looks pretty good. Hopefully, he'll be with us. We'll have to wait and see how the next couple of days go, but things are progressing nicely."

On matching up with LAFC's midfield:

Coach Friedel: "They concede an awful lot of goals in transition. Same amount of goals [that we have scored this season], 42, and about 50 percent—I think exactly 50 percent—are when they lose the

ball in midfield and teams counter on them. They also concede an incredible amount of goals—64 percent of their goals are conceded in the second half, of which over 30 percent [are conceded] in the last 15 minutes. I think it's important going away from home that we stay in the game as long as possible. It'd be great if we get a goal or two in front and also be very confident on the ball. It's a team that has some weapons going forward, but it's a team that can definitely be hurt defensively. We're going to have to be very aggressive, very resolute, brave on the ball, and hopefully we're first to all the second balls. I think we can have a very good night."

On returning to his alma mater of UCLA for training ahead of Saturday's match:

Coach Friedel: "It'll be nice. It'll be good to see some old friends at UCLA. I lived in LA for the last couple of years, so I'll see some friendly faces."

On potentially adding a player before Friday's roster freeze:

Coach Friedel: "We're looking, but we're not going to do anything unless it benefits the club. I've said it many, many times. The player has to be a good player to come into the squad. If it makes sense for all parties, then we'll do it. If it doesn't, then I firmly believe we have a good enough squad to make the playoffs as we stand."

New England Revolution Midfielder Kelyn Rowe

On the team's morale after last week's win in New York:

Rowe: "It's kind of just taken everything off our shoulders. We've obviously had a hard run and we knew it. You saw it in the way we played a little bit—it was on the back of our minds. For it to go down like that, an absolute grind of a game, and to get the first goal from Brian Wright—it's just incredible. You saw it in the locker room—at least I did from the guys—it was just pure excitement, that little bit of joy. For everyone to come together and celebrate with Brian, and with Isaac Angking, as well, getting his first debut, we were just so happy."

On the team stepping up and working hard:

Rowe: "All year, we've been working. Not just the guys in the 18, not just the guys in the 11—it's the whole team. You saw that, I think, on Wednesday in New York, because the guys that stepped up were guys who haven't gotten many minutes. To close out the game like Isaac [Angking] did, which I was so happy to see because he has been working so hard to get back, we're very, very proud of that."

On moving forward with confidence:

Rowe: "Like I said, there's that little bit of weight off your shoulders of not winning in [nine] games. We have that little bit of confidence back, but [in] this league, [it's] not easy to win every game. You need to go on a run. We're not taking it too much—we're not on too much of a high, we're not on too much of a low, we're kind of right in the middle. We're going to have to grind out again for the next eight weeks. It's not going to be easy, and we know that."

On facing LAFC's midfield this weekend:

Rowe: "LAFC is a very good team going forward. You've seen it week in, week out. It's not like they were surprised when that happened. But I think we can counter on them and we can get them—if we win that midfield battle, like you said, with guys like [Benny] Feilhaber and Lee Nguyen—if we win that battle, I think we can really open them up."

On traveling back to the west coast:

Rowe: "It's going to be great. I've got a lot of buddies out there—my whole family's flying down. I've got the whole Jessie Rees Foundation, as well, coming, because they're based out in LA. It's going to be a real big homecoming and it's going to be fun to go play in."

On Isaac Angking's call-up to the US U-19s:

Rowe: "Any opportunity to go play for the national team, whether it's the young teams like he is with the [U-19s], or with the full team—guys like Zach Herivaux and Gabriel Somi are doing the same in their international clubs—it's just a huge, inspiring moment. For Isaac [Angking] to come back from the injury

that he had, then play with us for the first time, then go into the call-up, I think it just gives him a little bit of confidence going in. We all know he's a good player, but he now has that confidence in himself, as well—which he's never very shy of anyways, but it's good to see him on the field in that sense."

New England Revolution Defender Andrew Farrell

On the group's morale heading into the rest of the season:

Farrell: "I think it's big. You've seen in the past with teams—Revs teams in the past, but also Seattle last year—you get hot at the end of the season and it can carry you into the playoffs. Obviously, when you're not doing well throughout the summer and then you get a tie and then a win in a tough environment, the boys' confidence is up. The good vibes are kind of back, and it gives you a boost of confidence. It's been a good week of training so far and we're excited for a big challenge against LAFC, as well."

On having a confidence boost after a clean sheet:

Farrell: "It's been almost two months or maybe even longer that we got a clean sheet, so even though the game was really ugly, there were a lot of positives just based on the result and getting the clean sheet."

On solidifying the back line with the arrival of Michael Mancienne:

Farrell: "It's been good. Mike's [Mancienne] come in and done a really good job. He's a good guy off the field, great player on the field, and just getting that consistency has been helping us. Obviously, we had the change in the goalies, and all of our goalies can play. As you saw, Brad [Knighton] stepped up and played really well and helped us get that clean sheet. The last game was a battle and you saw how much it means to the guys to get a result on the road, especially at a place where not a lot of teams had gotten a result this year. We're looking forward to continuing that into the next week."

On the team stepping up in a group effort:

Farrell: "I think it's what also builds the confidence. We know that guys, even though they may not get as many opportunities, can step up and provide a big result in this year's results that we've had. Having guys like Isaac [Angking] step up and play some good minutes for us, Brian [Wright] did an exceptional job, and Brad [Knighton] stepping up again—a lot of guys stepped up that game, but those three guys did well for themselves and for the club, and it feels good to see those guys put the hard work in and get the recognition."

On facing LAFC this weekend:

Farrell: "They're a great team. They've set up that team really well. Good attacking players – [Carlos] Vela, [Adama] Diomande, and they acquired [Christian] Ramirez and Lee [Nguyen] and Benny [Feilhaber]—a lot of guys that can make you pay on the defensive end, so we've got to be ready for that. But I think we've got players at the same caliber as they do and I think when you take the right game plan, we can take it to them. It's a big challenge. It's going to be good playing against Lee [Nguyen], seeing a familiar face, but obviously it's all business and hopefully get three points."

New England Revolution Defender Michael Mancienne

On coming off of his first MLS win in New York:

Mancienne: "“Yeah, it felt great. It was a really, really tough game. I thought the boys stuck it out really, really well. We showed great character, great fight until the final whistle, because there were some parts of the game that were really, really tough for us and we were under a lot of pressure, but we showed great resilience. It felt great to win the first game and come off that losing streak.”"

On carrying the momentum moving forward:

Mancienne: "We've just got to keep going. If we can beat a team that hasn't lost at home all season, we can beat anyone. We've just got to keep the positivity going, keep the same drive, keep that same energy we had in that game, and keep going because we need to get as many points as possible now."

On the win's effect on the team's morale:

Mancienne: “To be fair, everyone’s gotten a new lease of life. Everyone seems in good spirits. There’s good energy around the camp, which is really, really good. I think everyone is looking forward to the next game, and we need to because now everyone is positive and not thinking, ‘Oh we need to break this losing streak.’ Now, we’re thinking, ‘We want to carry on this winning streak’, which is really good.”

On making his first west coast trip:

Mancienne: “I’m actually really looking forward to it. It’s just strange that I’m going to be traveling six hours to play a game. That’s crazy to me, and obviously, the time difference as well, but it’s exciting for me and that’s the kind of experience I want, and I’m really looking forward to it.”

On young players like Isaac Angking getting experience with the U.S. Under-19 Men’s National Team:

Mancienne: “It’s massive. I came up through the ranks of England as well—England Under 21s—and it gives you massive experience of playing that international kind of level—what the tempo’s like, what’s the game like, what pressure games are like, that means stuff when you’re playing in cups, European cups, and stuff like that. It’s a great experience for him to learn and progress.”

New England Revolution Goalkeeper Brad Knighton

On coming off of a win and carrying the momentum moving forward:

Knighton: “Yeah, I think it’s easy. You look to build off your last performance and for us, it was something that we were looking for, for a while, and that’s a W. Hopefully, this weekend we can build on that, and get another W.”

On the win’s effect on morale:

Knighton: “The morale has been great, through the good times and the bad. We have a great locker room full of guys in here and you know everybody wants to win. We felt like we played very well at times, we were just unlucky in certain instances when we weren’t picking up points, and you know now that we have the win under our back. It’s nice that we can hopefully use [the win] as some momentum going forward in these last [seven] games.”

On the team stepping up and pushing for spots:

Knighton: “There’s competition every week. I think that’s great that we have a locker room full of guys that are pushing for spots and makes the manager’s job that much more difficult to select players. That’s what you want, is a healthy competition at every spot and guys fighting for minutes here come the end of the season.”

On facing LAFC’s midfield:

Knighton: “I think it’s going to be a massive part of our game plan—winning that midfield battle. They’re very good going forward and we’re going to look to counteract that and try to catch them on the break, and see if we can score some chances and take the lead. For us, it’s a mentality and we’re not going to do things that we aren’t typically doing and continue to do the things that we’ve done well and the things that have led us to be successful, and we’ll go from there.”

On the overall challenge of facing LAFC:

Knighton: “They’re beatable. Whether they’re home or away, they’re a very beatable side, and we know that and we’re game planning this week to go in and give them their second loss. Everyone was talking last week about New York City not having a loss at home, and then we went in there and disrupted that, so we’re looking to build off of that and see if we can give them their second loss.”

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COMMUNICATIONS CONTACTS

Communications Staff

Kaitlin Gangl Alden, Communications Director	(508) 549-0496	Media@revolutionsoccer.net KaitlinGA@revolutionsoccer.net
Adam Klionsky, Communications Manager	(508) 455-7551	AdamK@revolutionsoccer.net
Scott Altman, Communications Coordinator	(508) 549-0533	ScottA@revolutionsoccer.net
Nick Sobel, Communications Coordinator	(508) 404-0248	NicholasS@revolutionsoccer.net

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